



NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. VanderMeer Supports Paper Industry in State Budget *Fights to Secure Funding for UW-Stevens Point Paper Science Program*

Madison – Today, Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) announced that the legislative Joint Finance Committee approved her request to increase support for UW Stevens Point’s Paper Science & Engineering program in the state’s next budget. The request, offered in conjunction with Rep. Scott Krug (R-Nekoosa), would provide \$124,400 to help support the university’s goals of providing training and on-the-job experience for students looking to begin careers within paper industries.

“For generations, paper making and timber production have played a pivotal role in building and shaping communities throughout central and western Wisconsin,” said Rep. VanderMeer. “I’m proud to have played a role in helping UW-Stevens Point continue in training the best and brightest for careers in these vital industries.”

The UW-Stevens Point Paper Science & Engineering program provides students with the tools and education they need to prepare for successful careers in the paper industry. Boasting an impressive one-hundred percent post-graduate placement rating with employers, according to the university, roughly half of all graduates go on to find jobs in Wisconsin – helping to build our communities with good-paying, family-supporting jobs.

“Whether it’s in the mills in Wood and Portage counties or in the forests of Monroe and Jackson counties, paper production and the forestry industry supports countless families throughout our communities,” said VanderMeer. “Preserving this important program on the Stevens Point campus will help to ensure that Wisconsin remains a leader in paper production and that our students are receiving the skills they need to successfully enter the workforce.”

The 2015-17 state budget is currently before the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee for consideration. The state Assembly is expected to vote on the budget in June before being signed into law by Gov. Scott Walker.

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The 70th Assembly District includes portions of Monroe, Jackson, Portage and Wood counties.